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FLOOR DEBATE

April 30, 2001 LB 305, 543

obviously aside. But the philosophy is still the same: you make priorities, you determine what those are going to be, and you go from there. Now here's what I wanted to...and this is the information I found out over lunch. But we're giving the university \$57 million, and they were going to also ask for a tuition increase to pay for professors. And I'm glad to find out now that they were going to cover that within the money that we gave them, to prove that our schools and our institutions can hold true to their word that they will use money we give them for teacher pay raises, if that's the case. So that should be encouraging as far as setting some new history for future of LB 305, which has already been tagged the "Titanic" by some members. But I appreciate the opportunity. This was just an opportunity for me to present a bill or amendment for us to determine if there might be a way to streamline our budget down to the \$90 million that we had prior to General File and to live within our means. And I would encourage your vote on this as well. And I'm not sure if it's a good thing but I thank Senator Chambers for his vote. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Erdman. The question is the adoption of AM1723 to LB 543. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Mr. Clerk, please record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 6 ayes, 19 nays on the adoption of Senator Erdman's amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is not adopted. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: The next amendment, Mr. President, is by Senator Schimek. I have AM1719. (Legislative Journal page 1726.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Schimek, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President, members. I'm sorry that I didn't file this amendment till today but, until last Thursday, I didn't even know that this was an issue. This amendment is offered for the purpose of restoring some funds that the Appropriations Committee cut from the budget regarding the regional centers, the...the Beatrice State Development